

**RULES  
OF  
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
REHABILITATION SERVICES DIVISION**

**CHAPTER 1240-8-1  
DOG GUIDE CERTIFICATION FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1240-8-1-.01 Dog Guide Certification by the Tennessee Council for the Hearing Impaired

**1240-8-1-.01 DOG GUIDE CERTIFICATION BY THE TENNESSEE COUNCIL FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED.**

- (1) Certification of dog guides for the hearing impaired shall be issued by the Tennessee Council for the Hearing Impaired upon receipt of documentation from an accredited school or recognized agency providing training attesting that the animal has been trained to aid the hearing impaired, and the owner will submit an affidavit certifying that he/she needs the assistance of this dog and the animal has been trained to perform the following work (a minimum of three required):
  - (a) Fetches owner to answer knock, bell or buzzer at door;
  - (b) Fetches owner to answer telephone (TTY) ring;
  - (c) Fetches owner to crying child;
  - (d) Fetches owner to unattended running water;
  - (e) Carries notes from owner to other person (or other person to owner);
  - (f) Notifies owner of fire or smoke alarm;
  - (g) Notifies owner of intruder at dwelling;
  - (h) Fetches another person to owner;
  - (i) Fetches specific object to owner;
  - (j) Notifies owner of boil-over on stove;
- (2) In lieu of documentation from an accredited school or recognized agency for training dog guides, application for certification must be accompanied by an affidavit from the owner and from someone involved in the training of the dog, or a representative or TCHI who has witnessed the animal's performance, certifying that the animal has demonstrated training in basic obedience skills and can perform the following work (a minimum of three required):
  - (a) Fetches owner to answer knock, bell or buzzer at door;
  - (b) Fetches owner to answer telephone (TTY) ring;
  - (c) Fetches owner to crying child;
  - (d) Fetches owner to unattended running water;

(Rule 1240-8-1-.01, continued)

- (e) Carries notes from owner to other person (or other person to owner);
  - (f) Notifies owner of fire or smoke alarm;
  - (g) Notifies owner of intruder at dwelling;
  - (h) Fetches another person to owner;
  - (I) Fetches specific object to owner;
  - (j) Notifies owner of boil-over on stove;
- (3) The owner will also submit an affidavit certifying that he or she needs the assistance of this dog. Upon receipt of this documentation, the Tennessee Council for the Hearing Impaired will issue to the owner within ten (10) working days credentials certifying the animal as a "guide dog for the hearing impaired".

**Authority:** TCA §62-7-112. **Administrative History:** Original chapter moved to 1240-8-9 and new chapter 1240-8-1 filed March 22, 1985; effective June 14, 1985.